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18. ON TWO SPECIES OF TICKS (IXODOIDEA: IXODIDAE) ON A TIGER FROM ARUNACHAL PRADESH

During a recent faunistic survey in the Siang district, Arunachal Pradesh twelve tick specimens were collected from the body of a tiger which had been killed by tribals in the forested mountain of Kaying, 20 Km north of Along. The tick specimens belong to two diffffferent species and are reported here.

1. **Haemaphysalis (Kaiseriana) davisi** Hoogstraal, Dhanda & Bhat.

5 ♂♂, Arunachal Pradesh: Kaying (Alt. 400 metres), Siang district, 10.ii.1973 from Tiger, *Panthera tigris.*

The species has been described in detail only recently (Hoogstraal *et al.* 1970) from collections made in Burma, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. Recorded hosts of adults from Arunachal are gaur, cattle, goat and mules but elsewhere hosts include tiger, hog badger and barking deer. The present specimens collected at Kaying show exceptionally developed postero-external juncture of palpal segment 2. The available records show its occurrence in tropical and temperate zones between 145 - 2700 metre altitude.

2. **Ixodes (Partipalpiger) ovatus** Neumann.

3 ♂♂ and 4 ♀♀, Arunachal Pradesh: Kaying, Siang district, 10.ii.1973 from Tiger, (*Panthera tigris*).

Another asiatic species, which is distributed according to Hoogstraal *et al.* (1973) in Burma, China (Tibet), Japan, India (Jammu; Kameng district, Arunachal Pradesh), Nepal, Taiwan and Thailand. Recorded hosts include birds (Pheasant), wild dog, jackal, deer, goral, serow, domestic dog and cattle. Tiger is thus a new host for this species and its record from Kaying extends its distribution within Arunachal. It may be added that members of the genus *Ixodes* are normally highly specialized in their habits and frequently parasitize seldom-examined hosts which may explain lack of any previous record of *Ixodes* from Tiger. Hoogstraal *et al.* (op. cit.) have recently erected a new subgenus *Partipalpiger* for accommodating *I. ovatus* which shows a number of unique and unusual features in both adult and immature stages and shares characters of *Ixodes* s. str., *Afrixodes* and *Exopalpiger.*

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19. PREFERENTIAL FEEDING IN CAPTIVITY BY A FRESH WATER CRAB, *POTAMON ATKINSONIANUM* WOOD-MASON (CRUSTACEA: POTAMONIDAE) ON *NOTONECTA UNDULATA* (INSECTA: HEMIPTERA)

Potamon atkinsonianum Wood-Mason was recently collected and identified by me from the fresh waters of the Poonch valley. The abundance of this crab varied in different localities of the valley in association with microcrustaceans, aquatic insects and small fishes. This note is an account of the selective feeding by this crab on the aquatic insect *Notonecta undulata.*

Five specimens of the crab were captured between 12-15th November 1970 with specially designed nets of *c.*22 cm diameter and one metre scoop. They were brought alive to the laboratory for observation. Of the five, two were male and 3 were female. One male was kept in an aquarium, to study its preferential feeding on some aquatic insects collected from the same habitat. Various aquatic insects which were collected from the same locality as the crab were given as meals to the crab. The insects included *Gerris* sp., *Nepa* sp., *Dysticus marginalis, Notonecta undulata* and *Hydrophilus* sp.

In addition, nymphs and larvae of chironomids, mayflies and Odonata were also used. Among this variety of possible food the crab